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 ORIGIN AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	PFIP-01	CPR-02	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	INRE-00	INR-01	L-03
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	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	/028R

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 FM SECSTATE WASHDC
 TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
 USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE// PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 403597

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: MOPS PGOV PREL RW
 SUBJECT: RPF ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS
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1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ACCORDING TO RPF NORTH AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDE DUSAIDI, THE RPF SEES LITTLE HOPE OF SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AT ARUSHA BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND IS WONDERING WHETHER THE TALKS SHOULDN'T BE SUSPENDED. THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO SET A DATE TO MEET AGAIN RIGHT AFTER THE NEW YEAR. IN CONTRAST TO CONVERSATIONS WITH DESK OFFICER IN NOVEMBER, HE EXPRESSED NO ANXIETY OVER THE ADDITIONAL DELAY. (COMMENT: NEITHER THE RPF NOR THE GOR WANTS TO

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RISK CRITICISM FOR STOPPING THE TALKS DESPITE THEIR LACK OF SUBSTANCE. THE OBSERVERS AND NEGOTIATORS MAY NEED TO SUGGEST A PAUSE FOR FACE SAVING PURPOSES. END COMMENT.)

3. DUSAIDI ALSO COMMENTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN UNOFFICIAL DISCUSSION WITHIN THE RPF OF GRANTING CABINET PORTFOLIOS TO THE CDR IF IT PUBLICLY RENOUNCES VIOLENCE AND STOPS ITS VIOLENT ACTS AND SECTARIANISM. TO BRING THE CDR INTO THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT BEFORE IT MEETS THESE CONDITIONS, HOWEVER, WOULD BE TO VIOLATE THE ARUSHA PROTOCOL ON THE RULE OF LAW WHICH PROHIBITS "POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES BASED ON ETHNICITY." THE RPF HAS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED AN EARLIER SUGGESTION BY DAS JOHN BYERLY THAT MEMBERS OF THE TRANSITION LEGISLATURE BE REQUIRED TO TAKE AN OATH ESCHEWING VIOLENCE AND ETHNICITY.

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